



U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Southeastern Area  
State & Private Forestry

# FOREST PEST MANAGEMENT

Report No. 81-3-20

Issued: 8/10/81

## AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY OF FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE ACTIVITY, BIENVILLE NATIONAL FOREST, MISSISSIPPI

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: Bienville National Forest

STATE: Mississippi

AREA WITHIN SURVEY BOUNDARY: 382,821 acres

DATE: August 5, 1981

PERCENT COVERAGE: 50%

AIRCRAFT: Cessna 172

CREW: E.T. Wilson & T.P. Russell -(Doraville Field Office); Wes Nettleton -  
(Alexandria Field Office)

REPORT PREPARED BY: T.P. Russell

### SURVEY OBJECTIVES

To detect the presence of forest insect and disease activity adversely affecting the timber resources within the Bienville National Forest.

### SURVEY RESULTS

Fifty-four spots of dead or dying trees were observed, however only 11% of these spots contained more than a single tree, (refer to table I). One area of damaged pine exhibiting severe foliage discoloration was observed adjacent to the Bienville National Forest near highway 20, (refer to map). This area was ground checked by members of the aerial survey team, Wes Nettleton of the Alexandria Field Office, and Donald Shumaker, District Ranger, Bienville Ranger District, and was found to be herbicide damage from an agricultural spraying application. Branch and foliage samples were collected from the affected area. Paul Mistretta, supervisory pathologist at the Alexandria Field Office isolated and identified a needle blight caused by the parasitic fungus, Pestalotia sp. from the needles of the herbicide damaged loblolly pine.

### SURVEY CONCLUSIONS

Southern pine beetle activity is currently at a low level on the Bienville National Forest. Further inquiries regarding the needle blight fungus should be requested through the Alexandria Field Office of Forest Pest Management. National Forest personnel should continue to conduct routine field surveillance for early detection of any insect or disease problem.

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For additional information, contact:

USDA Forest Service FPM  
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Northgate Office Park, Room 2103  
Doraville, GA 30340  
Telephone: 404/221-4796

or

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2500 Shreveport Hwy.  
Pineville, LA 71360  
Telephone: 318/473-7280

Table I: ~~Summary~~ of Aerial Survey Data, Bienville National Forest, Mississippi, August 5, 1981

Infestation Size (# Trees)						
Ownership:	1		2 - 5			
	Spots : Trees		Spots : Trees		Spots : Trees	
	45	45	9	21		



89°40'

30'

89°20'

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
JOHN R. MCGUIRE, CHIEF

BIENVILLE NATIONAL FOREST  
CHOCTAW MERIDIAN  
MISSISSIPPI

1964

Scale 1:50,000  
LEGEND

— National Forest Boundary  
— Local Road  
— All-Weather Road  
— Dirt Road  
— Private Road  
— Trail

FPM. Aerial Survey Team

Doraville Field Office

August 5, 1981

1-10 Dead or dying trees

— Herbicide affected trees

